

proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION REFERRAL

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the attached correspondence be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE,
SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE,
Washington, DC, April 12, 2021.

Hon. CHARLES E. SCHUMER,
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR SCHUMER: Consistent with S. Res. 400 of the 94th Congress, as amended by S. Res. 4, 95th Cong. (1977); S. Res. 445, 108th Cong. (2004); Pub. L. No. 109-177, § 506, 120 Stat. 247 (2006); S. Res. 50, 110th Cong. (2007); and S. Res. 470, 113th Cong. (2014), we request that the nomination of the position of National Cyber Director, as created in Section 1752 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (P.L. 116-283), be referred to the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

Sincerely,

MARK R. WARNER,
Chairman.
MARCO RUBIO,
Vice Chairman.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE TOD KAUFMAN

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor longtime Kanawha County Circuit Judge Tod Kaufman upon his retirement after more than 32 remarkable years of service to the 13th Judicial Circuit.

I have often said there is no greater accomplishment than to find yourself in a position to give back to the community you love. As a Charleston native, Judge Kaufman has served the people of Kanawha County with professionalism, fairmindedness, and great respect from the day he took office in 1988.

Following his undergraduate education, he worked as a paralegal in the Washington, DC, law firm of Covington & Burling and received a law degree from West Virginia University College of Law in 1980. He served a clerkship on the U.S. Tax Court during law school before joining his late father's Charleston law firm of Kaufman & Ratliff in 1980. Prior to his appointment as judge, he served as my colleague in the State legislature and was appointed to the State senate in 1982 by then-Governor Jay Rockefeller and was elected in 1984. Judge Kaufman's lectured internationally at prestigious law schools and conferences and is a former member of the Mass Litigation Panel of the West Virginia Supreme Court and past president and executive officer of the West Virginia Judicial Association.

Shortly after graduating law school, Judge Kaufman tragically lost his par-

ents, former Senator and World War II veteran Paul Kaufman and Rose, and brother, Steven, in a car accident. I know their unflinching love and influence had a tremendous impact on the person he was to become. Both of his parents were extremely active in their community and passionate about many social issues. I will always be personally grateful to them that they passed their work ethic and compassion on to Judge Kaufman, because he has done so much good in our home State due to their influence. In 2011, the 35th Street Bridge over the Kanawha River between the East End and Kanawha City was renamed in their honor, and I am certain they would be so very proud of Judge Kaufman's legacy and personal values.

Throughout the years, Judge Kaufman has witnessed the drastic changes in the judicial landscape. Technology in the courts has played a crucial role, especially with current events as they are, but Judge Kaufman has always promoted the value of interpersonal communication and protecting the humanism in our court processes. He has been fiercely protective of the interests of the people in front of him in the courtroom, acknowledging the heavy responsibility of representing the justice system. He and I served in the State senate together, and in the many years I have called him a friend, Judge Kaufman has never taken his position lightly and has always seen himself primarily as a servant of the people of Kanawha County and of West Virginia. His view of the law is something I will always admire, and I know it has also inspired countless young judges and lawyers.

I will always be grateful to Judge Kaufman for his years of friendship and our shared passion for serving the people of West Virginia. While he is retiring and everyone is sure to miss his strong leadership, Judge Kaufman's unwavering dedication will leave a lasting legacy with the countless lives he has touched. Again, I congratulate him for his remarkable years of service, and I am honored to wish good health and much happiness to Judge Kaufman, his wife Barrie, and their daughters, Paula, Caroline, and Sophia, in the days and years ahead.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING DR. DAVID C. WHERRY

• Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to recognize the remarkable life of Dr. David Wherry.

Born in Pawnee City, NE, he was the son of the former Nebraska Senator Kenneth S. Wherry, who served as the minority leader here in the U.S. Senate.

Dr. Wherry attended Doane College in Crete, NE, before enrolling at the U.S. Naval Academy.

He then chose to go into the medical profession.

Little did he know the major impact he would have in this field.

After graduating from George Washington University with his medical degree and completing his surgical training, he was commissioned as a Medical Corps officer in the U.S. Air Force.

He then moved overseas for his residency, taking a position as a surgical doctor at the 7559th USAF Hospital in Burtonwood, United Kingdom.

He spent more than 2 years there before returning to the United States to become a teacher at George Washington University and later also at Georgetown University.

After years of teaching, Dr. Wherry returned to Active Duty during Operation Desert Storm and retired in 1993 as a colonel.

Following his years of service to our country, he returned to teaching and academic research.

Dr. Wherry became renowned in the medical world as a leading innovator in minimally invasive surgery, such as laparoscopic cholecystectomy on the gallbladder.

In his research in this area, he published over 50 manuscripts, 3 book chapters, and produced 2 films.

Additionally, he helped found laparoscopic cholecystectomy courses for servicemembers and trained thousands of military surgeons.

I want to note that Dr. Wherry was one of the first doctors in the United States to perform colonoscopies, making him a leading expert in this procedure that is performed on so many Americans and is vital in helping to detect and catch diseases like colon cancer.

International work was important to him, and he was successful in helping bring humanitarian aid to hospitals in the Philippines.

He also collaborated with the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, USUHS, and with the University of the Philippines/Philippine General Hospital in bringing surgical residents to do scientific research at USUHS as well as arranged exchanges between medical students for training purposes.

He wanted to share and expand on his work by collaborating with others, so he helped found the Society of American Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Surgeons.

He was a member of the Société Internationale de Chirurgie and International Biliary Association.

On top of all of these efforts, he continued to be a senior surgical consultant to the medical division of the U.S. Department of State.

His work and dedication to improving surgeries around the world and for our military men and women has been recognized by the State Department and the Department of Defense.

Both agencies presented him with their Meritorious Honor Award.

In addition to his place as a leader in the medical world, he was also a dedicated husband and father.